

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A computer system, comprising:
a device; and
a laptop computer coupled to said device by way of a communication bus operated under a communication protocol, the communication bus comprising communication lines and power lines; and
wherein the device determines if the laptop computer is capable of being powered across the power lines of the communication bus by communication with the laptop ~~said laptop computer powered by said device across the power lines of~~ said communication bus.
- 2.-9. (Canceled).
10. (Currently amended) In a computer system comprising a laptop computer adapted to dock to a docking station by way of a ~~communication bus~~USB interface, a method of operating said computer system comprising:
powering said laptop computer from said docking station across said USB interface with a voltage in excess of five volts.
- 11.-19. (Canceled).
20. (Currently amended) A docking station for mating with a laptop computer comprising:
a Universal Serial Bus (USB) interface having data signal lines and power rails that couple to the laptop computer; and
a docking logic that provides power to said laptop over the power rails of the USB interface at a voltage of greater than five volts.

21.-23. (Canceled).

24. (New) A computer system, comprising:
a device having power available therein;
a laptop computer coupled to said device by way of a communication bus operated under a communication protocol that allows for powering of an external device across communication bus power lines by the laptop computer; and
said laptop computer powered by said device across the power lines of said communication bus.

25. (New) The computer system as defined in claim 24 wherein the device further comprises a docking station.

26. (New) The computer system as defined in claim 24 wherein the communication protocol further comprises a Universal Serial Bus (USB) protocol.

27. (New) The computer system of claim 1 wherein the laptop computer is capable of providing power to external devices across the communication bus when the laptop is not coupled to the device.

28. (New) The method of claim 10 further comprising powering the laptop computer from the docking station across the USB interface with substantially 18 volts.

29. (New) The method of claim 10 further comprising shutting off power to the communication bus when a laptop computer is detached from the docking station.